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# CROPS AND MARKETS

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
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# BELGIAN TOBACCO IMPORTS UP IN 1959; U. S. SHARE DROPS

Belgian tobacco imports totaled 59.2 million pounds in 1959--2 percent more than the 57.8 million pounds in 1958. The U. S. share of the total dropped from 30 percent in 1958 to 28 percent in 1959. Imports from the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, Brazil, Greece, India, Italy, and Indonesia increased, while purchases from the United States declined about 5 percent.

Manufacturers apparently bought more tobacco last year from countries where prices were more attractive. Import prices expressed in terms of U.S. cents per pound for principal sources of supply were: United States, 50.3; Rhodesias-Nyasaland, 38.8; Greece, 33.5; Brazil, 28.3; Dominican Republic, 25.8; Paraguay, 21.0 and India, 19.9.

## TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Belgium, imports by country of origin, 1957-59

Country of origin	1957	1958	1959
	<u>1,000 lb.</u>	<u>1,000 lb.</u>	<u>1,000 lb.</u>
United States.....	19,101	17,399	16,550
Rhodesias-Nyasaland.....	4,182	4,627	5,214
Brazil.....	4,325	4,546	4,958
Greece.....	3,148	3,882	4,092
Dominican Republic.....	4,279	4,301	4,048
India.....	3,399	3,865	3,955
Netherlands 1/.....	1,874	2,064	2,555
Paraguay.....	1,997	2,458	2,379
Indonesia.....	1,371	1,605	1,931
Italy.....	1,213	1,788	1,799
Turkey.....	2,114	1,651	1,312
All other.....	8,892	9,638	10,420
Total.....	55,895	57,824	59,213

1/ Reexports.

National Statistical Institute.

## JAPAN'S TOBACCO EXPORTS MUCH LARGER LAST YEAR

Japan sharply increased its exports of leaf tobacco in 1959 to 13.1 million pounds. This was 45 percent more than the 9.0 million shipped out in 1958. The 1959 exports, the largest since World War II, consisted of burley, flue-cured, and native light air-cured. Burley, at nearly 8.0 million pounds, accounted for about 60 percent of the total.

(Continued on following page)

The largest markets for Japanese leaf in 1959 were West Germany, 7.0 million pounds; Egypt, 2.1 million; Norway, 1.0 million; Ryukyu Islands, 1.0 million; and the Netherlands, 0.6 million pounds.

West Germany took 6.2 million pounds of burley. Norway's purchases were about evenly divided between flue-cured and burley--about 500,000 pounds of each kind. Egypt's imports were mainly native light air-cured, but included about 300,000 pounds of burley.

Export prices averaged the equivalent of 33 U. S. cents for flue-cured, 32 cents for burley, and 26 cents for native light air-cured.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Japan, exports by destination,  
1957-59

Destination	1957	1958	1959
	<u>1,000 lb.</u>	<u>1,000 lb.</u>	<u>1,000 lb.</u>
Germany, West.....	3,006	4,568	7,019
Egypt.....	1,047	1,839	2,105
Norway.....	--	--	1,036
Ryukyu Islands.....	800	1,001	1,025
Netherlands.....	1,055	443	642
Belgium.....	856	240	584
Hong Kong.....	685	553	333
Others.....	339	342	314
Total.....	7,788	8,986	13,058

Japan Monopoly Corporation.

FINLAND USES MORE  
U. S. TOBACCO

Finnish usings of U. S. tobacco (as indicated by clearances from bond) increased from 4.9 million pounds in 1958 to 5.6 million in 1959--a gain of 15 percent. U. S. leaf represented 47.4 percent of manufacturers' usings in 1959, compared with 46.3 percent in 1958.

Cigarette consumption, at a record 5,838 million pieces, was up 11 percent from the 5,241 million pieces smoked in 1958. Cigarettes make up about 84 percent of total Finnish tobacco consumption. There is a growing trend towards short (60 millimeter) cigarettes which contain a minimum of 70 percent flue-cured and burley leaf. This trend has more than offset decreased demand for other kinds of cigarettes containing U. S. leaf.

Filter-tips accounted for 59 percent of the combined sales of short and standard size cigarettes--excluding the paper-mouthpiece cigarettes which made up 36 percent of total sales.



# PHILIPPINE TOBACCO EXPORTS DOWN SHARPLY IN 1959

Philippine exports of unmanufactured tobacco in 1959 totaled 17 million pounds--down 45 percent from the 31 million shipped in 1958.

Exports to the United States last year totaled 4.8 million pounds, compared with 12.9 million a year earlier. Spain was the major buyer of Philippine tobacco in 1959, taking 10.8 million pounds, or 64 percent of the total. Other outlets included West Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Morocco.

Philippine imports of tobacco in 1959 totaled 4.4 million pounds--practically all of U. S. origin.

# URUGUAY FREES TALLOW IMPORTS

A Uruguayan decree published the end of March lists tallow as one of the items which can be imported free of any surcharges or prior deposits.

As a result of reduced supplies, soap manufacturers have started to import tallow in recent months. Since December, 1,045 metric tons (2.3 million pounds) of Argentine tallow have been imported, and 1,000 metric tons of U. S. tallow have been purchased for May delivery. Soap makers say that tallow imports may reach 6,000 metric tons this year. As Argentine supplies are limited, the U. S. may gain a substantial share of this market.

# ARGENTINE BEEF FLOWN TO SWITZERLAND

Argentina recently began airshipping high-quality beef cuts packed in dry ice to Switzerland. Deliveries now amount to only about 1 long ton (2,240 lb.) per week, but considerable expansion is possible. First air shipments began in 1957 and continued through 1958. Deliveries were discontinued in 1959.

# IRELAND SEEKS OVERSEAS MARKETS FOR HORSEMEAT

The Limerick Horse-Meat Packers, Ltd. of Annacotty, Limerick (the only horsemeat processor in Ireland) is hoping to make regular weekly shipments to Britain. Shipments made earlier this year to Belgium and Sweden have not been profitable.

Horsemeat prices in Britain have recently improved, and Brazil and Ireland have made their first shipments to that market. The experimental Brazilian shipment was for use in manufacturing cat and dog food.

# SOUTH AFRICA INCREASES MOHAIR OUTPUT AND EXPORTS

Production of mohair in the Union of South Africa increased from 6.2 million pounds during the 1958 season (July-June) to an estimated 7.0 million pounds in 1959. (Production in Basutoland declined slightly to .9 million pounds from 1.0 million pounds in 1958.)

With this increased production, South Africa's 1959 exports of mohair rose to 8.4 million pounds, actual weight, from 7.4 million pounds in 1958. The United Kingdom took more than half of the total exports in both years.

South Africa normally ranks third as an exporter of mohair following the United States and Turkey.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA <sup>1/</sup>: Exports of mohair, actual weight, by country of destination, average 1951-55 and annual 1956-59

Country	1951-55 Average	1956	1957	1958	1959
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
United Kingdom.....	3,654	3,482	3,741	3,538	4,425
France.....	530	799	695	337	354
Netherlands.....	193	160	338	131	159
Italy.....	338	734	752	1,304	1,595
Germany, West.....	151	202	95	39	46
Japan.....	57	769	642	1,834	1,383
Belgium.....	80	195	157	85	73
Others.....	347	47	102	134	363
Total.....	5,350	6,388	6,522	7,402	8,398

<sup>1/</sup> Including Basutoland.

## ARGENTINE HIDE AND SKIN PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS DECLINE

Production of cattle hides and calf skins in Argentina dropped from 11.8 million pieces in 1958 to an estimated 8.6 million in 1959 because of reduced slaughterings. Exports of cattle hides and calf skins were also down--from 10.4 million to 9.1 million pieces.

As a result of strong foreign demand and high prices, domestic stocks of bovine hides and skins had fallen to only 700,000 pieces by the end of 1959, in contrast to 3.2 million pieces at the close of 1958.



Soviet Bloc countries reduced their purchases by over 1.1 million pieces during the year but still accounted for 36 percent of total exports--not counting sizable quantities probably transshipped to that area.

Argentina is the leading competitor of the United States in the world hide market. (U.S. exports of bovine hides and skins in 1959 totaled 6.0 million pieces.)

ARGENTINA: Exports of cattle hides and calf skins 1/, 1958-1959, with percent change

Country	Cattle hides		Calf skins		Total		Percent change
	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959	
	1,000 pieces	1,000 pieces	1,000 pieces	1,000 pieces	1,000 pieces	1,000 pieces	Percent
Soviet Bloc:							
U.S.S.R. ....	1,349	1,062	79	180	1,428	1,242	-13
Poland.....	684	649	670	377	1,354	1,026	-24
Czechoslovakia..	308	353	275	160	583	513	-12
Rumania.....	245	130	285	191	530	321	-39
Hungary.....	251	69	291	90	542	159	-71
Bulgaria.....	--	29	--	--	--	29	
Total Soviet Bloc :	2,837	2,292	1,600	998	4,437	3,290	-26
Western Europe:							
Netherlands.....	1,049	927	1,109	785	2,158	1,712	-21
Germany <u>2/</u> .....	831	989	388	556	1,219	1,545	+27
Italy.....	453	444	490	236	943	680	-28
Yugoslavia.....	157	222	109	104	266	326	+23
France.....	83	95	35	32	118	127	+ 8
Spain.....	136	115	21	5	157	120	-24
United Kingdom..	65	92	103	20	168	112	-33
Belgium.....	13	41	44	22	57	63	+11
Total W. Europe....	2,787	2,925	2,299	1,760	5,086	4,685	-8
Chile.....	15	173	21	14	36	187	+419
United States.....	54	121	9	5	63	126	+100
Japan.....	10	60	18	23	28	83	+196
Unknown <u>3/</u> .....	274	396	146	121	420	517	+23
Other.....	193	200	93	53	286	253	-12
Grand total.....	6,170	6,167	4,186	2,974	10,356	9,141	-12

1/ Includes kip skins. 2/ Source does not specify whether both East and West Germany are included. 3/ Ultimate destination unknown at the time of shipment--it is believed that most are destined for Eastern Europe.

# AUSTRALIAN BEEF SHIPMENTS TO U.S. IN APRIL-MAY

In early April, 7 ships were loading or scheduled to load frozen beef at Australian ports for shipment to North America. Some of the beef is likely to go to Canada, but most of it will come to the United States.

As of March 30, the shipments listed below had been cleared by the Australian Meat Board. Additional quantities may be added before the actual sailing dates. As mutton and lamb shipments do not require the Meat Board's approval, data on them are not available until vessels have sailed.

Ship	Scheduled sailing date	Quantity :(1,000 pounds)
Port Lincoln .....	April 13	9,233
Port St. John .....	do. 14	392
Pioneer Reef .....	do. 27	90
Elizabeth Bakke .....	April	36
Pioneer Glen .....	May 12	134
Gloucester .....	do. 17	7
Port Chalmers .....	do. 21	2,764

## SWEDEN INCREASES IMPORT DUTIES ON MEAT PRODUCTS

Sweden recently raised import taxes on livestock and meat products. The duty rates for horsemeat were raised from 6-1/4¢ to 7-3/4¢ per pound on carcasses and from 11-3/4¢ to 14-1/4¢ on cuts. The duties on variety meats have limits of 4-1/2¢ to 5-1/2¢ per pound for hearts and lungs and 13-1/2¢ to 18-1/4¢ for all others. The import duties are higher than U.S. wholesale prices on many of the variety meat items.

Duties are set in accordance with a formula which protects Swedish agriculture from world price fluctuations and cost increases. Further duty increases on livestock and meat products are expected in the near future because of recent wage increases to Swedish industrial workers.

Sweden imports U.S. beef variety meats and horsemeat, and the new high duties will limit this trade. Imports of U.S. canned meats are barred by import controls, and U.S. pork and pork variety meats because of cholera.

## NEW ZEALAND MEAT SHIPMENTS TO U.S. IN MAY

Seven ships are scheduled to sail from New Zealand ports during May with 15,904,000 pounds of meat for the United States.

Ship	Scheduled sailing date	Destination	Quantity (1,000 pounds)
Port Dunedin.....	May 11	East Coast	3,584
Wharanui.....	" 14	" "	896
Sussex.....	" 28	" "	8,512
Egyptian Reefer.....	" 12	West Coast	896
Monterey.....	" 14	" "	448
Argentinean Reefer.....	" 26	" "	1,344
Orensay.....	" 30	" "	224

#### CANADA ANNOUNCES DAIRY SUPPORT PRICES FOR 1960-61

The Canadian Government recently announced that dairy support prices for the year May 1, 1960, to April 30, 1961, will be the same as the previous year's.

Butter delivered Montreal will again be supported at 64 cents per pound. The support price for cheese will remain at 32 cents per pound f.o.b. warehouse in Ontario and 31.5 cents per pound for Quebec sheese delivered Montreal. Producers delivering milk exclusively for manufacturing purposes will continue to receive 25 cents per cwt. from the Stabilization Board.

The Agricultural Stabilization Board is also being authorized to buy dry whole milk in an effort to reduce butter production. The board will not purchase nonfat dry milk, as the purchase of dry whole will not only reduce the potential supply of butter but will, at the same time, reduce the output of nonfat.

Butter production totaled 324 million pounds in 1959, 20 million pounds more than consumption. Stocks of butter totaled 76.5 million pounds on April 1, 1960, compared with 61.7 million one year earlier.

#### MEXICAN WINTER VEGETABLE SHIPMENTS, APRIL 1-15

The following winter vegetables from the west coast of Mexico crossed the border at Nogales, Arizona, from April 1-15, 1960 (in thousands of pounds). Comparable figures for last year are shown in parentheses: cantaloupes 43, (2,086); green corn 62, (413); cucumbers 575, (327); eggplant 93, (106); garlic 40, (17); onions .9, (1,012); peas .6 (8); peppers 838, (2,838); squash 47, (49); string beans 914, (360); tomatoes 25,179, (38,952); and watermelons 800, (7,945).

Over 1,500 pounds of frozen papaya pulp also crossed during the same period.

UPTREND IN U.S. EXPORTS OF  
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS CONTINUES

U.S. exports of most livestock products in the first 2 months of 1960 were up substantially from a year earlier.

With slaughter increases reported for most classes of livestock, meat supplies were about 10 per cent above last year and prices generally a little lower. As the dollar balances of most countries have improved, foreign demand should continue strong if U. S. prices remain competitive.

With the exception of lard, sausage casings, and mohair, exports in February continued to follow the trend reported for January (see *Foreign Crops and Markets*, March 21, 1960).

For the 2-month period, exports of animal fats, beef and veal, lamb and mutton, baby food, variety meats, cattle hides, and calf and kip skins were up considerably from the corresponding period in 1959. Exports of pork, sausage casings, mohair, and sheep and lamb skins declined. A drop of 1.4 million pounds in pork exports to Cuba accounted for about two-thirds of this year's reduction in exports of this item.

The increase in cattle hide exports reflects the lower U.S. prices and reduced supplies in Argentina.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: U.S. exports of selected items, February 1959 and 1960  
and January-February 1959 and 1960, with percentage change

(Product weight basis)

Commodity	February		Percent change	January-February		Percent change
	1959	1960		1959	1960	
	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000	
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Lard.....	56,521	50,260	-11	98,670	119,060	+21
Inedible tallow and greases 1/...	85,546	144,971	+69	205,889	298,752	+45
Edible tallow and greases 2/....	939	1,019	+9	1,781	2,383	+34
Meat:						
Beef and veal.....	1,470	2,158	+47	3,389	4,652	+37
Pork.....	7,500	5,515	-26	12,477	10,364	-17
Lamb and mutton.....	42	117	+179	136	168	+24
Sausage:						
Except canned.....	149	168	+13	284	345	+21
Canned.....	98	98	--	187	171	-9
Baby food, canned.....	55	182	+231	109	349	+220
Other canned.....	384	146	-62	677	464	-31
Total red meats.....	9,698	8,384	-14	17,259	16,513	-4
Variety meats.....	6,703	11,796	+75	14,955	23,085	+54
Sausage casings:						
Hog.....	751	680	-9	1,427	1,473	+3
Other natural.....	590	392	-34	1,147	973	-15
Mohair.....	1,433	219	-85	2,358	1,270	-46
	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000	
	<u>pieces</u>	<u>pieces</u>		<u>pieces</u>	<u>pieces</u>	
Hides and skins:						
Cattle.....	380	661	+74	721	1,078	+50
Calf.....	93	157	+69	216	288	+33
Kip.....	25	41	+64	68	75	+10
Sheep and lamb.....	117	156	+33	246	203	-17

1/ Includes inedible tallow, oleic acid or red oil, stearic acid, and other inedible animal greases, fats, and oils. 2/ Includes edible tallow, oleo oil and stearin, oleo stock and shortenings, animal fat, excluding lard.



## WHEAT PRICES DECLINE IN INDIA

Wheat prices in the Punjab, India's principal producing area, have fallen below the guaranteed minimum price of Rs. 15 per maund (\$2.29 per bushel) fixed by the Government of India at the beginning of the current crop season. In mid-April, wheat was selling at Rs. 13.50 to 14.50 per maund (\$2.07 to \$2.22 per bushel), as against Rs. 18.00 per maund (\$2.75 per bushel) 2 months earlier, and Rs. 23 per maund (\$3.52 per bushel) a year earlier.

The decline is attributed to heavy marketings by growers who had held their stocks in anticipation of an end-of-the-season price rise which did not materialize. As a result, the state government has begun purchasing wheat from growers at the guaranteed minimum price.

LATE SPRING IN CANADA  
DELAYS FIELD WORK

Harvesting of Western Canada's 1959 grain crops, which was cut short by early snows last fall, has been resumed. Harvesting was well under way by mid-April in western and central Saskatchewan and in Alberta, except in the Peace River area. Very little harvesting had been started in eastern Saskatchewan and no field work was possible in western Manitoba.

After spring harvesting commenced, however, heavy snows in some western areas again delayed completion of the 1959 harvest. Latest official estimates indicated about 100 million bushels of wheat, oats, barley, and rye were still in the fields at the end of December, mostly in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Early samples of recently harvested wheat indicate that grades were largely No. 4 Northern and No. 5. This is about 2 grades below grain harvested early last fall, bearing out expectations that the quality of the grain would be reduced materially by exposure in the fields.

Seeding of the 1960 grain crop will be late this spring. Though a small amount of seeding has been done in Southern Alberta, exceptionally warm, dry weather will be required to get crops in by mid-May in most areas of the Prairie Provinces. Ideally, seeding should be completed in mid-May.

C O R R E C T I O N

In the article "World Apple and Pear Production Down in 1959" in the World Summaries monthly issue of Foreign Crops and Markets, April 28, 1960, the footnotes at the bottom of the pear table on page 4 should have been at the bottom of the apple table on page 3. The pear table footnotes, which were omitted, follow: 1/ Preliminary. 2/ Belgium only. 3/ Deciduous Fruit Board Handlings. 4/ May include some cider pears in countries not reported separately.

## BRAZIL HAS RICE TO EXPORT

Brazil has up to 120,000 metric tons (2,645,000 cwt.) of milled rice to export in 1960.

This year's record crop of Rio Grande do Sul--Brazil's rice exporting state--is forecast at 2,040 million pounds of rough rice. The previous largest output was 1,805 million pounds in 1953-54. Because of floods, last year's harvest was only 1,740 million pounds.

Rice sales held up well in the first quarter of 1960, so that most of the 1958-59 crop was disposed of. For the 1959-60 paddy crop, the minimum price scale submitted to the government for approval is 29 percent higher than in 1958-59. It may be necessary for the federal government to subsidize export prices of rice in order to compete on world markets.

Brazil's largest exports of rice were 253,000 tons (5,570,000 cwt.) in 1947. Average exports in 1951-55 were 68,000 tons (1,500,000 cwt.). In recent years, both production and consumption have increased and rice exports have been less important.

## ARGENTINE WHEAT EXPORTS DROP, BUT CORN SHIPMENTS RISE

Argentine wheat exports during July-February 1959-60, at 1.1 million metric tons, were 30 percent below those in the corresponding period a year earlier.

Principal markets for wheat exports in the 8-month period were as follows (in 1,000 metric tons, with comparable data for the previous year shown in parentheses): Brazil, 504.5 (718.0); West Germany, 135.7 (224.1); United Kingdom, 103.4 (316.1).

Corn exports during July-February 1959-60, at 2.1 million tons, were about 31.5 percent above the preceding year. Exports to Italy, by far the largest buyer, were 772,000 tons, compared with 418,000 tons a year earlier. Substantial gains were also made in exports to West Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and Japan.

Barley exports during July-February 1959-60 increased about 22,000 tons above last season, with West Germany the principal market. Approximately 40 percent of the grain sorghums went to the Netherlands, compared with none a year earlier.

Practically all Argentine rye and oats exports go to Western Europe. Exports of these grains during July-February 1959-60 were 25 percent below last year's. The principal market has been West Germany, which took 55 million tons this year and 66 million last year.



## GRAINS: Argentine exports, July-February 1958-59 and July-February 1959-60

Country of destination	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Barley	Sorghums 1/	Total
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
July-February 1958-59:							
United States .....	—	—	4,560	—	—	—	4,560
Bolivia .....	6,500	—	—	—	—	—	6,500
Brazil .....	717,977	—	—	7,552	2,000	—	727,529
Paraguay .....	39,438	—	—	—	—	—	39,438
Peru .....	80,349	—	—	—	—	—	80,349
Uruguay .....	—	—	—	—	940	—	940
Austria .....	10,713	—	9,870	—	—	—	20,583
Belgium-Luxembourg :	43,455	4,970	155,774	6,292	1,250	—	211,741
Czechoslovakia .....	—	—	2,850	1,500	—	—	4,350
Denmark .....	15,799	2,700	9,513	13,576	—	—	41,588
France .....	23,821	—	1,144	—	—	—	24,965
Germany, West .....	224,124	11,598	117,955	54,767	101,407	—	509,851
Italy .....	13,055	7,709	417,769	13,396	5,112	—	457,041
Malta .....	—	—	203	—	508	—	711
Netherlands .....	73,332	13,596	401,744	43,017	10,877	—	542,566
Norway .....	6,450	—	6,958	—	—	—	13,408
Poland .....	—	—	3,960	—	—	—	3,960
Rumania .....	—	7,771	6,200	1,150	—	—	15,121
Sweden .....	800	8,825	3,650	5,490	—	—	18,765
Switzerland .....	300	646	13,866	420	950	—	16,182
United Kingdom .....	316,056	1,330	234,269	12,808	—	—	564,463
Japan .....	—	—	206,949	—	—	—	206,949
Lebanon .....	7,875	—	—	—	—	—	7,875
Madeira Islands ....	6,907	—	—	—	—	—	6,907
North Africa .....	—	—	1,785	—	—	—	1,785
South Africa .....	8,168	—	—	—	—	—	8,168
Total .....	1,595,119	59,145	1,599,019	159,968	123,044	1/	3,536,295
July-February 1959-60:							
United States .....	—	—	1,657	—	—	—	1,657
Canada .....	—	—	—	—	—	75	75
Brazil .....	504,488	—	—	2,454	6,143	—	513,085
Chile .....	50,000	—	—	—	—	—	50,000
Paraguay .....	52,220	—	—	—	—	—	52,220
Peru .....	65,387	—	2,210	—	—	—	67,597
Uruguay .....	10,870	500	840	2,001	7,985	—	22,196
Austria .....	9,965	6,629	3,135	160	—	150	20,039
Belgium-Luxembourg :	22,384	2,372	204,952	4,847	1,186	21,072	256,813
Denmark .....	1,125	200	2,188	4,500	—	4,840	12,853
France .....	23,150	—	2,890	—	—	—	26,040
Germany, East .....	—	—	—	—	—	1,190	1,190
Germany, West .....	135,745	15,613	140,591	39,975	114,245	9,600	455,769
Italy .....	41,775	2,048	772,314	11,920	11,338	2,468	841,863
Netherlands .....	70,267	8,675	435,704	30,629	9,857	73,172	628,304
Sweden .....	—	1,200	3,650	1,000	—	235	6,085
Switzerland .....	5,465	—	13,946	1,100	—	—	20,511
United Kingdom .....	103,399	1,224	273,556	—	2,856	9,616	390,651
Japan .....	—	—	245,554	—	—	—	245,554
Lebanon .....	19,015	—	—	—	1,350	—	20,365
Total .....	1,115,255	38,461	2,103,187	98,586	154,960	122,418	3,632,867

1/ Not available prior to September 1959.

Source: El Cerealista.

# PERU MAY IMPORT LESS EDIBLE FATS AND OILS

Peruvian imports of edible fats and oils in 1960 are forecast at 33,000 short tons, consisting of 20,000 tons of lard, 10,000 tons of soybean and cottonseed oils (4,400 tons under Title I of Public Law 480) and 3,000 tons of butter. Imports in 1959 totaled 35,100 tons--18,400 tons of lard, 9,900 tons of soybean oil, 3,150 tons of butter, and 3,160 tons of other oils, mostly cottonseed oil.

Production of edible fats and oils in 1960 is expected to reach 43,500 tons, with increases of 10 percent foreseen in cottonseed and lard production, and a 1.5-percent increase in butter. Peru grows small quantities of peanuts and soybeans, but they reportedly are not processed for oil.

EDIBLE FATS AND OILS 1/: Peru, supply and distribution,  
annual 1958-59, forecast 1960

Item	1958	1959 2/	1960 3/
	- - - - - 1,000 short tons - - - - -		
Supply:			
Stocks, January 1.....	4.2	3.9	6.5
Production 4/.....	35.4	38.8	43.5
Imports 5/.....	23.0	35.1	33.0
Total.....	62.6	77.8	83.0
Distribution:			
Exports.....	0	0	0
Apparent consumption.....	58.7	71.3	76.0
Stocks, December 31.....	3.9	6.5	7.0
Total.....	62.6	77.8	83.0

1/ Excludes sizable quantities of fish oils which are used for edible purposes and exported. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Forecast. 4/ Approximately 80 percent cottonseed oil, 12 percent lard, and 8 percent butter. 5/ Includes margarine and butter on a product weight basis.

## CANADA'S 1959 PEANUT IMPORTS SECOND LARGEST ON RECORD

Canada imported 75.5 million pounds of peanuts in 1959, the second largest quantity on record, exceeded only by 1956 imports of 77 million pounds. Major suppliers were the United States, India, and Mexico.

The U. S. share of the market increased from about one-third of the total in 1958 to one-half of the 1959 total. India resumed the place it held in the Canadian market between 1950 and 1955, while Mexico dropped from first place as a supplier in 1957 to third place.

Peanuts imported into Canada are consumed in about equal proportions in the form of edible nuts and peanut butter.

PEANUTS 1/: Canadian imports by major countries of origin, 1957-59

Country of origin	1957	1958	1959
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
China, Mainland.....	8,296	7,608	5,772
India.....	---	257	17,318
Mexico.....	29,795	18,835	10,365
Union of South Africa.....	12,513	9,166	4,356
United States.....	23,644	22,918	35,505
Others.....	896	13,653	2,165
Total.....	75,144	72,437	75,481

1/ Green, shelled or not, and not otherwise specified.

Source: Foreign Trade of Canada.

Peanut oil imports in 1959 dropped to 10.2 million pounds, compared with 21.6 million in 1958. Over one-half of the total came from the Union of South Africa and the remainder from the United Kingdom, the United States, and Hong Kong.

#### URUGUAY AGAIN HAS SMALL SUNFLOWER SEED CROP

Uruguay's 1959-60 sunflower seed crop is estimated at 75,800 short tons, up sharply from the reduced 1958-59 crop but only one-half the record output in 1957-58. Estimates of sown area, yield, and production for the current crop, the 2 previous crops, and the most recent 10-year average are as follows:

Year	Sown area	Yield	Production
	Acres	Pounds per sown acre	Short tons
Average 1949-50/1958-59.....	448,950	404	90,575
1957-58.....	478,855	602	144,130
1958-59.....	639,400	167	53,285
1959-60.....	679,500	231	75,800

Yields from sown acreage this year are expected to be above the record low of 1958-59, but far below the average of the most recent 10 years. Continued dry weather reduced yields sharply in 1959-60, whereas rains and floods prior to harvest reduced last year's yields. A record area was sown to sunflower seed in 1958-59 and again in 1959-60. However, it is doubtful that harvested acreage was exceptionally large last year and, because of the drought, abandonment may be large again this year.

## TRINIDAD'S CROPS HURT BY DROUGHT

The severe drought in 1959 definitely lowered agricultural production in Trinidad (see Foreign Crops and Markets, Sept. 7, 1959). Although comprehensive production figures are not available, the drop in output is reflected in the reduced exports of the following:

Export item	1958	1959	Change
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Percent
Sugar.....	347.4	339.0	- 2
Cocoa beans.....	18.2	15.9	-13
Coffee beans.....	4.2	5.4	+29
Bananas.....	9.9	8.9	-10
Grapefruit (fresh).....	19.6	7.3	-63
Oranges (fresh).....	4.0	3.1	-22
Grapefruit juice.....	21.5	12.7	-41
Orange juice.....	8.5	4.9	-42

All important crops dropped in volume except coffee, which has shown a fairly steady increase over the past 5 or 6 years. Preliminary estimates for 1960 indicate a better sugar and citrus crop. Bananas continue to be plagued by disease, and no increase in output is expected.

According to local press reports, the copra industry has been weakened by severe droughts in both 1958 and 1959 and an attack of Red Ring disease. Copra delivered to manufacturers dropped from 43 million pounds in 1957 to 36 million in 1958, and preliminary figures for 1959 indicate a further drop to 34 million pounds. Although rain was reported in December and late March, drought is still hurting the industry.

CAMEROUN PALM KERNEL  
EXPORTS UP SHARPLY

Exports of palm kernels from Cameroun rose sharply in 1959, reflecting the partial success of the campaign to encourage the harvest of more fruits from the estimated 30 million wild palms that are scattered throughout the southern part of the country.

The 1959 exports, from estimated production of 27,500 tons of kernels, totaled 23,560 tons--all to France. Exports in 1958 were only 14,292 tons, also to France.

The 2 commercial palm oil factories in Cameroun have a combined capacity of only about 5,000 tons of oil annually. However, sizable quantities are produced by crude, "home" methods. A continued increase in production of both oil and kernels can be expected if there is political stability in the country.



## AUSTRALIA'S SAFFLOWER SEED PRODUCTION EXPANDING RAPIDLY

Australia may soon become self-sufficient in safflower seed if the current rapid rate of expansion continues. The major factor in any further increase, however, is the relationship between returns for wheat and wool and the price guarantee for safflower.

Encouraged by the Queensland Department of Agriculture and favorable marketing conditions in 1958, area sown to safflower in Queensland increased from 7,736 acres yielding 1,840 short tons of seed in 1958-59 to about 10,000 acres in 1959-60. The first substantial commercial sowings were in 1956-57, when 928 harvested acres yielded 240 tons of seed.

Following the success of safflower seed in Queensland, growers in New South Wales became interested and have been planting 400 to 500 acres in recent years. Trial plantings also have been made in Western Australia and in South Australia.

An estimated 3,585 tons of seed that were crushed from the 1958 and 1959 harvests produced about 880 short tons of oil. As Australian annual consumption is about 3,150 tons and is rising, a substantial proportion of the oil needed is still being imported. In 1958-59, about 3,000 tons were imported from the United States and India; in 1957-58, 3,175 tons were imported from the United States, India, and the Union of South Africa. Nearly all the seed from the 1957-58 crop was exported, as overseas markets (particularly West Germany) paid somewhat better prices than the local crushers. Australian crushers have agreed to buy up to 3,000 long tons (3,360 short tons) of safflower seed from the 1960 crop at £ 45 per long ton (\$90 per short ton) delivered Sydney.

Australian use of safflower oil is largely confined to the paint and resin industry. Smaller quantities are used by the linoleum industry and in edible vegetable oil blends.

## ARGENTINA RAISES FLAXSEED SUPPORT PRICE FOR 1960-61 CROP

The Argentine Government has announced that the official minimum price to farmers for 1960-61 flaxseed will be 600 pesos per 100 kilos, compared with 500 pesos for the 1959-60 crop. The substantial increase is encouraging the expansion of flaxseed acreage.

The government also announced that a forthcoming radio program would deal with the current flaxseed controversy between Argentine farmers and crushers. The crushers are demanding a ban on exports of flaxseed as seed, and the farmers are pressing for a policy of free trade. At present, government policy is to permit exports of oil and byproducts only.

# MEXICO NEEDS FATS AND OILS TO MAINTAIN CONSUMPTION

Mexico's 1960 imports of fats and oils for edible use and soap making will be at least double those of 1959 if total consumption is maintained at last year's level. Total consumption in 1959 was the same as in the previous year, but because of a rapidly increasing population, per capita consumption declined 3 percent.

An extremely tight supply situation is expected to develop prior to harvest of the 1960 cotton crop (mainly in July and August) because of smaller carryovers of fats, oils, and oilseeds on January 1, 1960.

Supplies for the first 7 months of the year, including stocks of fats and oils, the oil equivalent of oilseed stocks, output from sources producing throughout the year (palm oils and animal fats) and new-crop cottonseed crushed in July, are estimated at 220,000 short tons of oil. Consumption per month for the last 2 years has averaged about 35,000 tons. The 220,000 would at this rate meet about 6 months needs. Thus, consumption can be maintained only by importing sizable quantities of fats and oils. The Mexican Government may restrict imports again as in 1959, and let consumption decline. Reportedly, many small producers of soaps and edible oils have exhausted their supplies of raw material and have had difficulties in keeping their products on the market.

EDIBLE AND SOAP FATS AND OILS 1/: Mexico estimated supply and distribution, annual 1958 and 1959, forecast 1960

Item	1958	1959 <u>2/</u>	1960 <u>3/</u>
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	short tons	short tons	short tons
Supply:			
Stocks, January 1.....	67.0	78.0	41.7
Production.....	368.3	369.0	390.3
Imports.....	59.7	12.0	26.0
Total supply.....	495.0	460.0	458.0
Distribution:			
Exports.....	---	<u>4/</u>	---
Apparent consumption.....	417.0	418.3	420.0
Stocks, December 31.....	78.0	41.7	38.0
Total distribution.....	495.0	460.0	458.0

1/ Includes fats and oils used for edible purposes and for soap making because an accurate breakdown on quantities of the various fats and oils used interchangeably for these purposes is not available. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Forecast. 4/ In 1959 24 tons were exported.

Compiled from official and other sources.



Production of edible vegetable oils should be higher in 1960 than in 1959, but the expansion will not take place until the 1960 oilseed crops are harvested later this year. Larger crops of cottonseed, sesame seed, and rapeseed are forecast for this year.

Also, last winter's campaign to encourage farmers in the states of Sonora and Sinaloa to plant safflower seed and soybeans apparently was successful. A tenfold increase is expected in safflower seed production-- 33,000 tons against only 3,300 tons in 1959-- and soybean production in 1960 is forecast at 37,000 bushels, compared with only 11,000 bushels last year. Coconut oil production is expected to increase this year as new trees come into bearing.

Animal fat production, mostly lard and tallow, probably will be up again in 1960.

#### ETHIOPIAN COFFEE EXPORTS HEAVY

Ethiopian coffee exports were unusually heavy during the first quarter of 1960. At the close of the quarter, the total was estimated at 25,000 metric tons (416,666 bags). Of this, 5,000 tons (83,333 bags) were Harar coffee.

The National Coffee Board's more stringent inspection of coffee arriving at Addis Ababa for export has reportedly raised the quality of exports and prevented sharp price declines. Although Harar prices declined in March, they were very steady in January and February. Many exporters believe that most of the coffee crop will be exported before the end of June.

#### THAI RAMIE PRODUCTION UNCHANGED IN 1959

Thailand had a crop of about 1.1 million pounds of ramie in both 1959 and 1958. This was a sharp drop from 4.0 million in 1954. Exports are small (about 155,000 pounds in 1958). Larger quantities were exported in former years, to Japan, Germany, and Belgium. In 1955, however, production was curtailed when prices in the important Japanese market fell. The industry began to recover in 1956 but gains have been slow. Ramie is used in Thailand mostly for fishing nets and textiles.

#### GUATEMALA SETS UP NEW COFFEE OFFICE

A new Coffee Export Office was created in Guatemala by an Executive Order of March 29, 1960. This office will represent Guatemala in international meetings and will engage in other activities. Costs will be met by a 25-cent surcharge per quintal (101.4 lb.) on green coffee exports. At present, it is not expected that the office will buy or sell coffee, but this is a possibility for the future.

## COLOMBIA ENCOURAGES KENAF PRODUCTION

A government-sponsored program to encourage kenaf production in the north coast area of Colombia is being established in cooperation with the Colombian-American Agricultural Technical Service. The area's soil and climate are well suited to kenaf, grown there on a small scale for about 10 years. The fiber will be used mainly to make bags, for which there is a potentially large domestic demand.

EGYPT'S COTTON CROP SECOND  
LARGEST ON RECORD

Egypt's 1959-60 cotton crop, according to the fourth and final government estimate released April 19, totaled 2,100,000 bales (500 pounds gross).

Except for the 2,281,000 bales grown in 1937-38, the current crop is the largest on record. It exceeds the 1958-59 crop of 2,048,000 bales by 3 percent, and is 23 percent above average production of 1,707,000 bales in the past 5 seasons. Higher yields this year, resulting from favorable crop conditions, more than offset an officially estimated 7.6-percent reduction in acreage from 1958-59. Practically all of the increase this year is in medium long staple Giza production.

COTTON: Egypt, production by staple length and variety,  
final estimate 1958-59, and 1959-60

Staple length and principal varieties	1958-59	1959-60	Percentage change
	1,000	1,000	
	<u>bales 1/</u>	<u>bales 1/</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Extra long staple, over 1-3/8":			
Karnak, Menoufi, and Giza 45...	1,200	1,074	-10
Medium long staple, over 1-1/4":			
Giza 30, 31, and 47.....	160	316	+98
Long staple, over 1-1/8":			
Ashmouni.....	640	667	+ 4
Subtotal.....	2,000	2,057	+ 3
Scarto (unclassified cotton).....	48	43	-10
Total.....	2,048	2,100	+ 3

1/ Bales of 500 pounds gross.

Source: Government of Egypt.

## ACTIVITY PICKS UP IN WEST GERMAN COTTON INDUSTRY

Activity increased in all sectors of the West German cotton industry during the first half (August-January) of 1959-60.

Cotton imports rose to 836,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in the period under review, an increase of 41 percent from 591,000 bales in the first half of 1958-59. This sharp increase reflected rising cotton consumption and the need to restore cotton stocks to more normal levels.

The U. S. share of the West German cotton import market has increased steadily since September 1959, and is now running well ahead of last year. Imports of 193,000 bales from the United States during August-January made up 23 percent of total imports in this period, compared with 119,000 bales or 20 percent during the same period a year earlier. Other major suppliers during August-January 1959-60, with comparable 1958-59 figures in parentheses, were: Mexico 166,000 bales (119,000); Turkey 79,000 (22,000); Brazil 65,000 (19,000); Sudan 65,000 (14,000); and Peru 62,000 (59,000).

Early depletion of exportable supplies in major producing countries other than the United States will result in further increases in the U. S. share of the West German market during the latter part of this season. As of early March, U. S. cotton reportedly made up between 40 and 50 percent of outstanding raw cotton orders for shipment before August 1, 1960. Imports from the United States in the full 1959-60 season (August-July) may reach around 500,000 bales, almost one-third of estimated total West German imports of 1,550,000 bales.

Cotton consumption in West Germany has also increased this season, and approached a postwar high during the second quarter (November-January). Prospects are good for a continued high rate of consumption in coming months. Stocks of yarn and fabrics have been reduced, and latest reports indicate that mills have a good volume of unfilled orders on hand. Total consumption in 1959-60 is expected to moderately exceed the 1958-59 level of 1,340,000 bales. During the first half of this season 728,000 bales were used, an increase of 7 percent from 678,000 in the first 6 months of 1958-59.

There was a sizable buildup in raw cotton stocks during the August-January period. Midseason stocks on January 31 were estimated at around 30 percent above beginning stocks of 320,000 bales on August 1, 1959.

Cotton prices on the Bremen market trended upward from October through December in response to strong spinner demand. Although prices have eased somewhat since December, they are still above the October level. As an example, U. S. Middling 1-inch cotton was quoted at 25.90 cents a pound, c.i.f. Bremen, on April 19, compared with 25.20 cents in early October.

# MALAYAN PALM OIL AND PALM KERNEL EXPORTS DOWN SLIGHTLY IN 1959

Malayan exports of palm oil in 1959 were down 3 percent from those of 1958, while palm kernel shipments fell 5 percent.

Palm oil shipments to the United Kingdom were off about one-fourth while exports to Asia were up three-fourths.

Palm kernel exports to Europe were up 80 percent from those of 1958, but shipments to Asia were down about one-third.

PALM OIL AND PALM KERNELS: Malaya, exports by country of destination, average 1935-39, annual 1958 and 1959

Continent and country of destination	Palm oil			Palm kernels		
	Average 1935-39	1958 <u>1/</u>	1959 <u>1/</u>	Average 1935-39	1958 <u>1/</u>	1959 <u>1/</u>
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
North America:						
Canada.....	17,977	18,839	11,094	---	---	---
United States....	608	---	---	---	---	---
Total.....	18,585	18,839	11,094	---	---	---
Europe:						
Denmark.....	---	---	---	226	1,434	252
France.....	---	---	---	---	168	224
Germany, West....	43	---	---	1,410	745	396
Greece.....	---	---	---	---	1,128	---
Italy.....	6	43	---	134	---	---
Netherlands.....	4	---	6	1,304	56	3,765
United Kingdom...	23,270	47,144	36,189	2,115	2,145	5,628
Other.....	---	---	---	2,897	---	---
Total.....	23,323	47,187	36,195	8,086	5,676	10,265
Africa.....	915	866	145	---	---	---
Asia:						
India.....	908	17,163	27,273	---	---	---
Iraq.....	---	3,136	9,800	---	---	---
Japan.....	922	1,485	1,361	46	18,122	13,118
Philippines.....	245	102	399	---	---	---
Other.....	531	341	383	---	<u>2/</u> 808	6
Total.....	2,606	22,227	39,216	46	18,930	13,124
Oceania.....	52	5	4	---	---	---
Unspecified.....	1,879	---	---	---	---	---
Grand total..	47,360	89,124	86,654	8,132	24,606	23,389

1/ Preliminary. 2/ 565 tons to Mainland China and 243 tons to Hong Kong.

Compiled from official sources.



# COLOMBIA'S EDIBLE FATS AND OILS PRODUCTION CONTINUES UPTREND

The uptrend of recent years in Colombia's production of edible fats and oils is expected to continue in 1960. A sharp expansion in cottonseed production and a slight increase in sesame seed and soybeans boosted 1959 production about 40 percent above 1958 output.

Cottonseed production, which increased from 48,000 short tons in 1958 to 112,000 tons in 1959, is expected to expand further this year, despite the fact that support prices for cotton will not be increased. Sesame seed output is expected to be somewhat lower--21,000 tons, compared with 22,000 in 1959--due to lack of high-yielding, combine-harvested varieties and technical assistance and to relatively low support prices. Soybean production this year is tentatively estimated at 919,000 bushels, compared with 514,000 in 1959 and 367,000 in 1958. Copra production has been declining in recent years because of "porroca" disease. A further decline from the 1,875 tons produced in 1959 is expected in 1960.

Colombia has only 425 acres in African oil palm. However, the Cotton Development Institute (IFA) considers that the greatest possibilities for Colombia to overcome its deficit in vegetable oils lie with this type palm; the institute hopes to plant 12,355 acres in African oil palm within 5 years and to continue to expand the area as funds permit.

It is still necessary to import about 53 percent of the country's edible fats and oils needs. These requirements have in the past been largely supplied with imports of copra. However, in 1958 a new law required that copra imports be reduced by 10 percent each year. As a result of this law and the current high copra prices, Colombia is importing more soybean, cottonseed, and other oils.

## EDIBLE FATS AND OILS: Colombia's supply and distribution, 1959 and 1960

Item	1959	1960 <u>1/</u>
	<u>1,000 short tons</u>	<u>1,000 short tons</u>
Supply:		
Opening stocks, January 1.....	8.2	8.7
Production.....	43.5	47.5
Imports.....	38.7	34.7
Total supply.....	90.4	90.9
Distribution:		
Domestic consumption.....	81.7	82.4
Ending stocks, December 31.....	8.7	8.5
Total distribution.....	90.4	90.9
<u>1/ Preliminary.</u>		

Compiled from official and other sources.

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Official Business

#### SUGAR INDUSTRY OF SOUTH AFRICA SEES NEED FOR RESTRICTING PRODUCTION

According to press reports and the South African Sugar Association, sugar production in the Union of South Africa has grown beyond the market provided by domestic requirements and limited export possibilities.

The industry's target of 1 million short tons by 1960-61 was surpassed by 1958-59 when an output of 1,128,187 tons was achieved. Since then, domestic consumption has increased less than had been expected, and currently is about 750,000 tons annually. Exports are limited under the International Sugar Agreement and the British Commonwealth Sugar Agreement to 242,931 short tons. Rising sugar production in Southern Rhodesia and Swaziland dims the future for exports to those areas.

These considerations and the accumulation of unnecessarily large stocks have led the industry in the Union of South Africa to recommend to the government that 1960-61 production be limited to about 940,000 tons, substantially less than was produced in each of the 2 prior seasons.